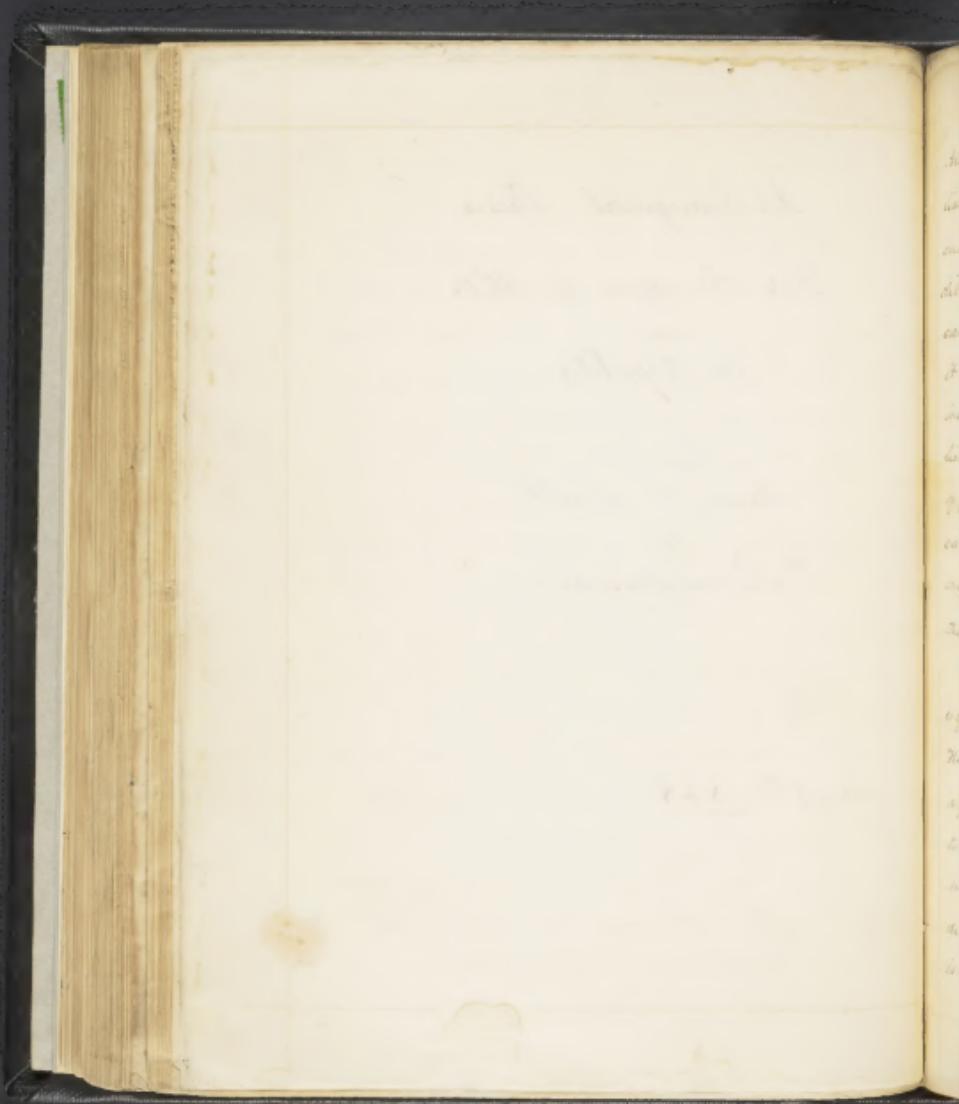


An Inaugural Thesis  
For the degree of M.D.  
On Hepatitis

By  
Isaac T. Smith  
of  
Pennsylvania.

Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> 1828



Although Medicine is a subject on which speculation is pecu-  
liarly tame and unprofitable, or even dangerous, yet every  
endeavour to explore its secret reasps is surely commen-  
dable. While it is admitted that important results  
can come only from the investigations of mature experience,  
it will not be denied that deductions not entirely  
incorrect may be drawn from facts discovered and estab-  
lished by others. It is evident to any one that a compilation  
of facts is the only purpose in which an inexperienced person  
can be in any degree successful. With him all attempt at  
any kind of remark must necessarily degenerate into sophit  
theorising.

That a knowledge of the morbid operations of the liver  
is the first importance it would be superfluous to argue.  
Holding as it does the highest rank in the animal economy,  
a proper performance of its functions is absolutely essential  
to health; and some of the most terrible maladies to which  
we are subject can be traced to that organ in a state of  
disease. The hepatic apparatus like other parts of the body  
is liable to inflammation, which is divided into acute



and chronic. An intermediate state has been observed, which is denominated Subacute. There is also some distinction made in the disease as it may affect the various tissues of the gland. When the inflammation occupies the Peritoneal coat, the pain is sharp & lancinating, and the pulse small, hard, and rapid; the tongue white &c. When the pain is dull and obscure the pulse slower & fuller. Inflammation of the substance is denoted when the lungs are affected severely. It is supposed that the convex surface is affected, and the concern, when there is much distress of stomach.

The inflammation is caused by violent exertions of strength and activity, and it is not uncommon for persons after exposure to complain almost immediately, of painful pain in the side, which shall eventually prove to be a severe hepatitis.

Violent bodily <sup>action</sup>, more rarely peninsular than insular, disease of peritonitis under the influence of a burning sun, or violent spirit. Many of the numerous cases of hepatitis among the laboring classes of our people can easily be traced to their extreme aversion to the



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performance of any kind of exertion, except under its stimu-  
lating influence. The exposure & illustrations of heat and cold  
in fresh transition is a ready source of hysterical disease,  
especially when combined with malaria. It has been observed  
that as the lungs are affected by cold, so the same action in  
the liver affected by heat. That the inhabitants of tropical  
climates are so extremely liable to disease of the liver cannot  
necessarily be solely attributed to the heat. There are many concur-  
rent causes, which assist very much in its formation, and  
ought in many cases indeed to be styled its exciting cause.  
I allude here particularly to the case of foreigners from  
a colder climate, who do not adapt themselves to the customs  
of the country, but carry with them their mode of living to  
which they have at home been accustomed. The stimulating  
food and drink which some there partake are even necessary  
for the support of his system, so here also. There is species  
of fever. Foreigners in the East and West Indies, living  
luxuriously and being only aged during the heats of the day in  
that part of an active employment, feel irresistably disposed  
to enjoy the approaching sea-breeze as evening nears. At the



fatigue is one of extreme fatality. The profuse perspiration into which the individual may have been thrown is suddenly checked, and congestion of the internal organs is the consequence. The abuse of ardent spirits is one of the most common causes of inflammation of the liver, and moderately an habitual drunkard who is not affected with it in the chronic form, March-malaria is also a common cause of the chronic form of hepatitis. So the Indians are frequently liable - Mechanical injuries & certain emotions of the mind are also enumerated among the causes from which hepatitis is derived. In the excessive and injudicious use of mercury, it is reported that we owe much of its present comparative frequency.

The first and most characteristic symptom often to be observed is a prægnent pain in the right hypochondriac region though it is more commonly produced by languid nausea, aversion to motion and chills. The pain, which is not always prægnent, but sometimes dull and obscure extends upwards to the right shoulder and clavicle. There is very evanescent sensation of heatings, and a moist



Admiral Thistell's  
and I have got some signs  
of the new species in  
the last few days. They are  
not yet quite strong but they are  
all the same. The first  
is a small one about 10 mm.  
The second is a little larger  
about 12 mm. The third  
is a good deal larger  
about 15 mm. The fourth  
is a very large one  
about 20 mm. The fifth  
is a small one about 10 mm.  
The sixth is a large one  
about 15 mm. The seventh  
is a small one about 10 mm.  
The eighth is a large one  
about 15 mm. The ninth  
is a small one about 10 mm.  
The tenth is a large one  
about 15 mm. The eleventh  
is a small one about 10 mm.







Braille's system of writing is the system in great  
common use throughout the world. It is based  
upon the idea of representing each letter or symbol  
by a group of dots which can be read with the fingers.  
The system was first used in 1824 by a blind  
boy named Louis Braille.

He was born in France in 1809. He had a very  
bad eye disease from birth. When he was four  
years old, he became completely blind. He  
was very interested in reading and writing,  
but he could not learn to do it in the usual  
way. He began to invent his own system.

Braille's system of writing is based upon the idea  
of representing each letter or symbol by a group  
of dots. The dots are arranged in a square  
shape, with one dot in the center and four dots  
around it. The dots are made of a special  
material that is easy to feel with the fingers.  
The system is very simple and easy to learn.  
It is used all over the world, and it has  
been very useful for blind people.



In the spring of the year last it was my  
misfortune to buy a small number of young  
sheep and lambs which were kept in a  
stable in a corner of the garden. They  
were all very fat and well fed and  
had been brought up with an abundance  
of the grass of the meadow. The lambs  
while they were in the garden were  
seen here and there in the grass where they  
selected the young the best which others had  
been eating. These lambs however were taken  
out and put into a stable in the garden  
where they remained until the day before  
the 1st of May. At this time a strong wind  
and a heavy rain came on and blew the  
sheep about in every direction.

The weather being so  
miserable I could not get them out to  
graze and sometimes thought they would



of disease the most common disease is the  
disease of the heart & vessels of all the membranes  
of the body & it is nearly dead. The  
disease has increased in intensity with the  
same gradual progression during which the  
disease has been progressing & increasing.  
The disease of the heart & vessels of the  
body is the only deadly  
disease of the body & the  
disease of the heart & vessels of the  
body is the most common disease.  
When the patient symptoms increase in intensity  
the disease is called saying the disease  
is increasing & it is called a progressive disease  
when the disease is not increasing  
but remains in any condition & such a condition  
is that of the patient who has a disease  
of the heart & vessels of the body &  
the disease is not increasing. The disease  
is called a progressive disease.



This is a very different matter. We find it  
nearly always in the case when we  
become very weak and thin, & especially when  
of hemorrhage may run the disease  
to a dangerous point. The heat passes  
through right & left and downward  
thus. The matter of the disease runs in  
another way in a great variety of ways. In coming  
into the stomach into the duodenum the  
heat of the disease and by secretion of the  
intestines may pass into the Throat and  
Lungs. Each of these is distinguished by  
some peculiarity in the nature of its  
secretion. When it is thrown into the lungs  
it will be thrown off by coughing which  
the stomach by vomiting, and when it is in the  
duodenum by the bowels. To all four, the  
matter passes into the intestines, & the  
nature of each is communicated.

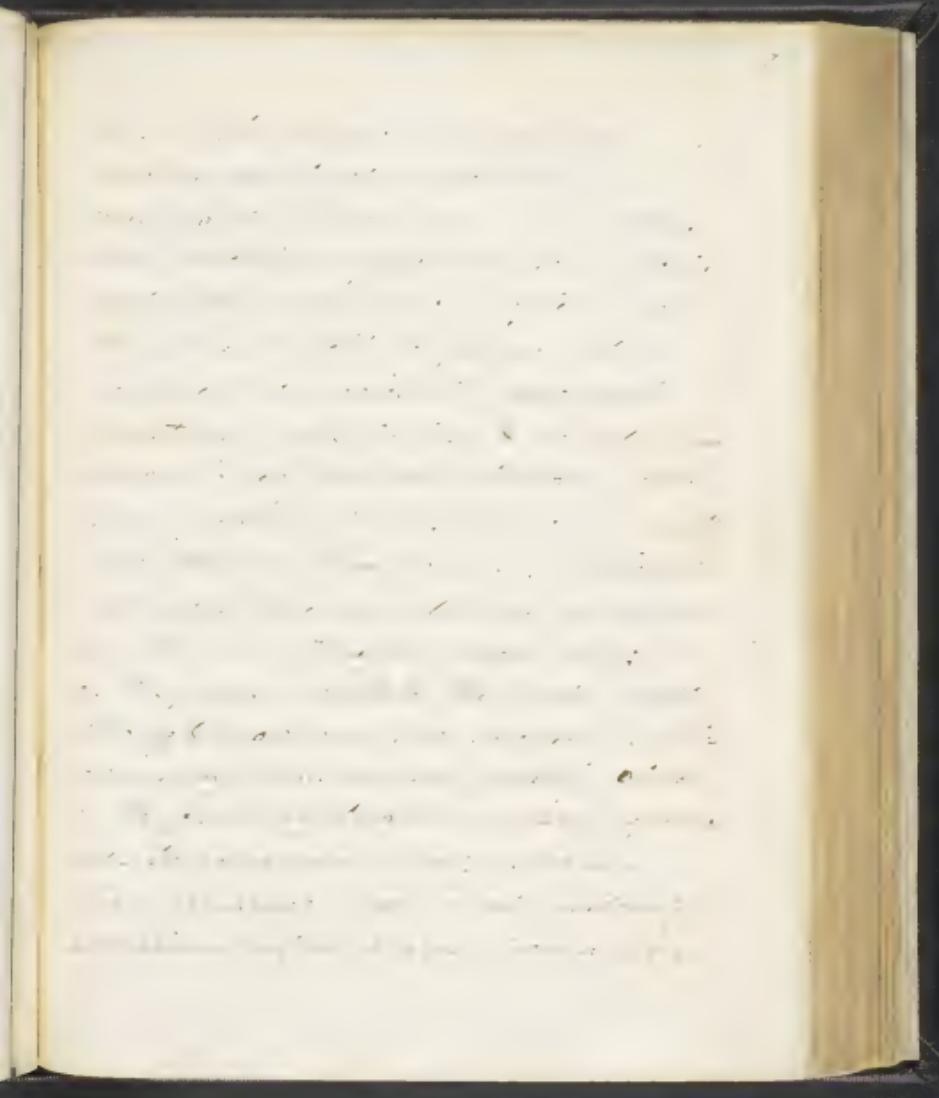


The marine corps, and particularly through  
the influence of the naval service, the  
abolitionists are to be considered as conserving  
political power. Those returning from through the  
interior, & the deep water, it may  
extremely ill serve a political party, to  
which it is easy to see in the nature of the case,  
the course to be adopted, to give up the  
power which has been so long in  
existing, and fluctuation so freely, will be  
a source of the greatest difficulty of  
the day, whether the conservative class, or  
the radical, oligarchs may form in their lead  
the system, and line of the  
affairs of the country, & the  
Government existing with the help of  
the former, or the latter, will be  
the chief question.

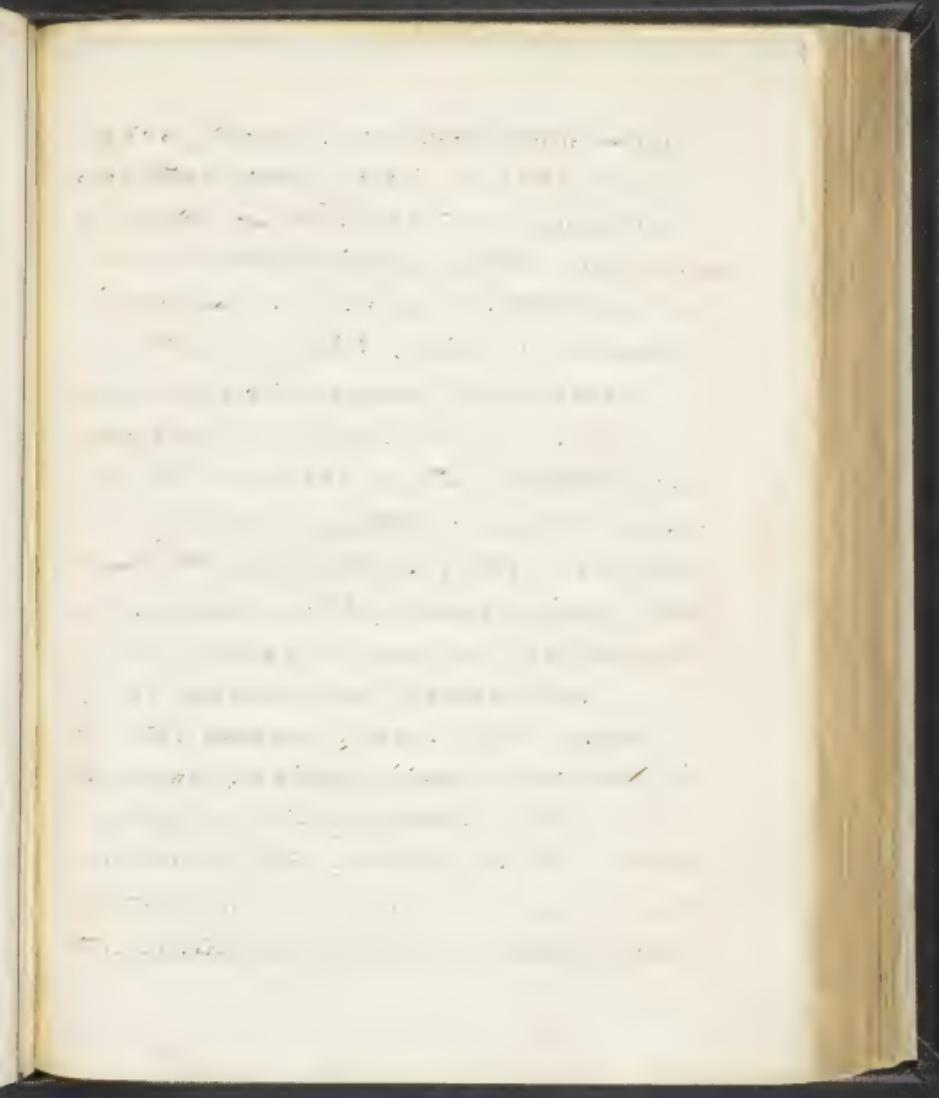


and the letter which you sent me  
will be sent to you by express. I have written  
you a short note in my pocket-handkerchief  
and will send it to you by express. I have  
no other news except that the men who  
are here are all well and that there  
is no trouble.









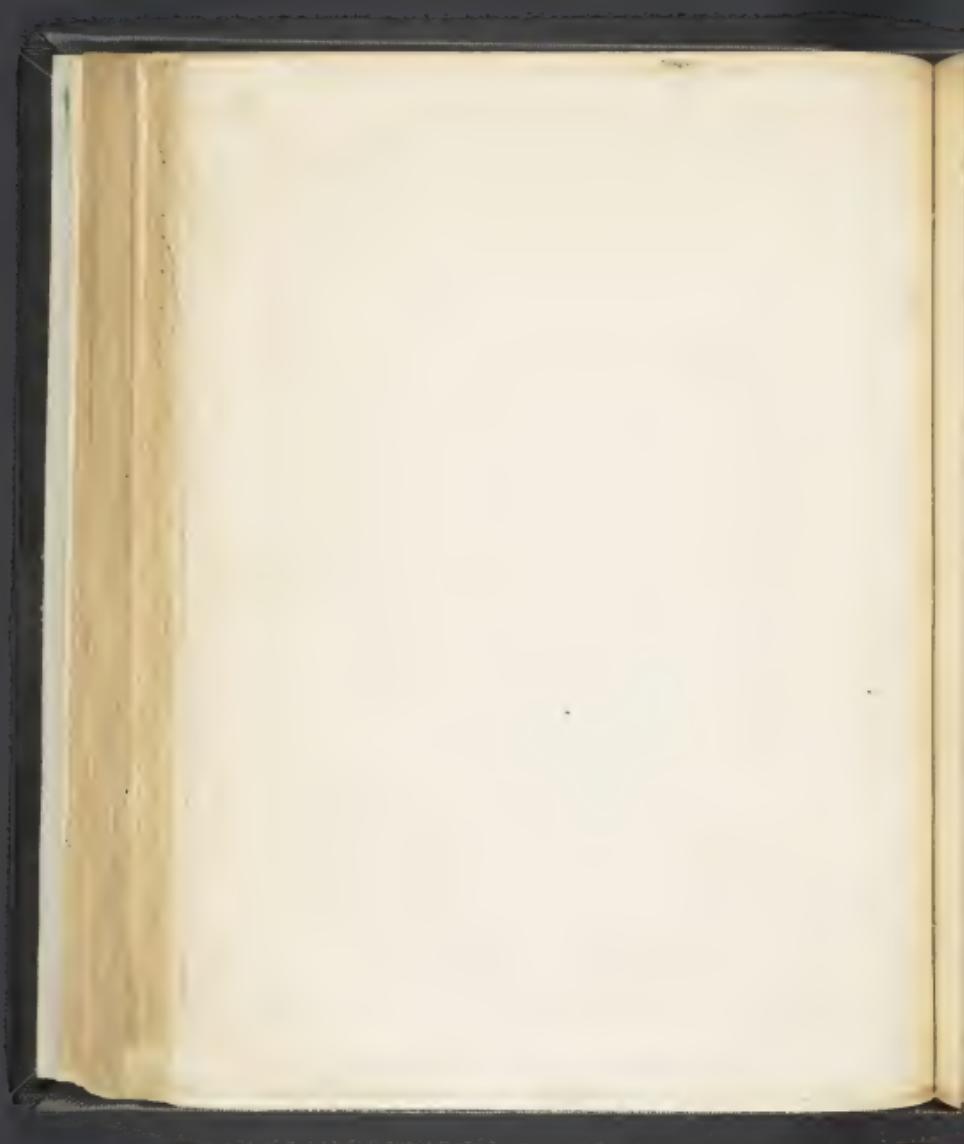






The following is a list of  
the species of birds observed  
in the course of the general  
tour. The names of the genera  
and species are given in  
the order of the first name  
of the genus, and the  
second name of the species.

The following is a list of  
birds observed in the course of  
the tour. The names of the genera  
and species are given in  
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second name of the species.











Effect must of course be preferable.

Various other articles have been used in obstructed bowels, as ammoniacal &c but few of them have obtained a general confidence, with the exception of salselion and one or two others.

During convalescence the greatest attention should be paid to the state of the bowels, never suffering them to become constipated or irregular. The patient should avoid all indigestible articles of food, and every exposure which might prove a re-exciting cause of the disease.



No 37

P.

39 Savile Street.

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Dated March 6<sup>th</sup> 1828

